# Eye-Pal

# Training Guide and User Manual
# OS Windows XP, Windows 7

# Release 4.1.2

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# What is Eye-Pal?

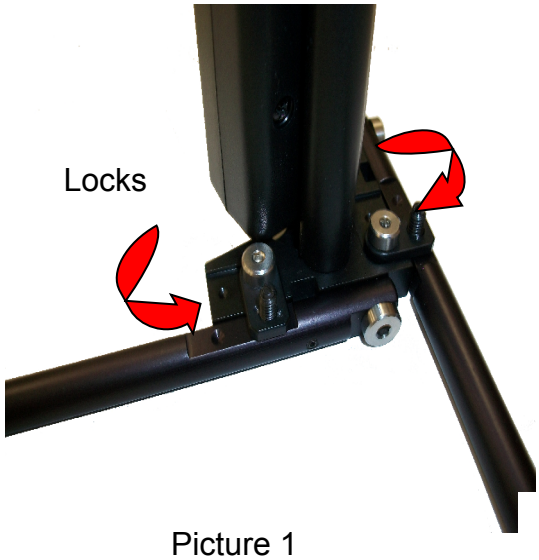
Eye-Pal is a computer-connected portable electronic scanner/reader that helps those with low vision to hear text read aloud.

Eye-Pal reads aloud books, magazines, newspapers, documents, prescription labels and other print in a variety of naturally-sounding voices and languages.

The software program is fully customizable to accommodate individual preferences. Default settings can be changed by going to **Application** and down to **Settings**.

# Setting Up Eye-Pal

1. Remove the device from the box and unfold the two legs. Pivot the two pins at the base of the vertical camera stand outward over each leg. This locks the legs in position (Picture 1).




Picture 1

2. **This part is important.** Insert the software installation CD into your computer and follow the installation instructions. Do not connect Eye-Pal to your PC until the installation wizard instructs you.

3. When instructed by the setup CD, plug the USB cable directly into the computer or laptop. Do not use bus-powered USB hub.

4. Locate Eye-Pal application by pressing the "**Windows"** key plus "**D"** key to open the desktop. Press "**Z"** key to locate Eye-Pal icon. Click on Eye-Pal icon to hear "Camera Started." This indicates that the camera is ready to start scanning and reading aloud.

# Quick Start

# How to Place a Document Under the Camera

Place a document under the Eye-Pal camera and press the **Space bar** to hear "Camera started"

1. To scan and hear printed material read aloud, press **E** on the keyboard, and wait until you hear a shutter sound. Reading starts immediately.
2. Press **X** to pause and resume reading.
3. Press **E** to have the text read to you from the beginning of the document. Follow along as the text is read aloud and displayed on the screen.

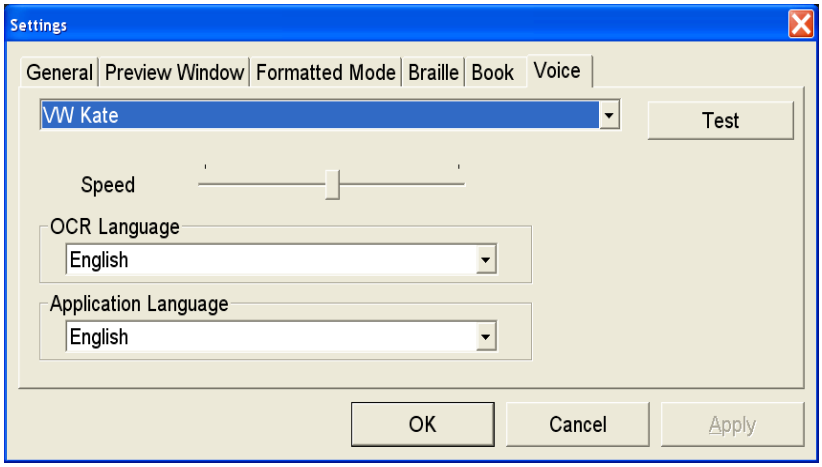
# Keyboard Keys to Navigate Reading

1. Place printed material under the camera.
2. Press the **Space bar** to turn the camera on. You will hear "Camera Started".
3. Press the **E** key on the computer keyboard to start reading from the beginning of the page. You can also start reading by going to the menu's **Voice** tab and choosing **Speak Entire Page.**
4. Press the **X** key to stop or resume reading.
5. Press **Shift + E** to hear the page layout description.
    a. Number of words on the page
    b. Number of sections on the page
    c. Percentage of text on the page
    d. Number of columns and headers on the page
6. Press **Control + Right Arrow** to move to the next word.
7. Press **Control + Left Arrow** to move to the previous word.
8. Press **Down Arrow** to move to the next sentence.
9. Press **Up Arrow** to move to the previous sentence.
10. Press **Control + Down Arrow** to move to the next section
11. Press **Control + Up Arrow** to move to the previous section.
12. Press **Right Arrow** to move to the next character
13. Press **Left Arrow** to move to the previous character

To stop the document from being read, press the **Control** key.

# Changing the Voice Settings

You can change the voice parameters by going to **Application, Settings** then **Voice** tab:

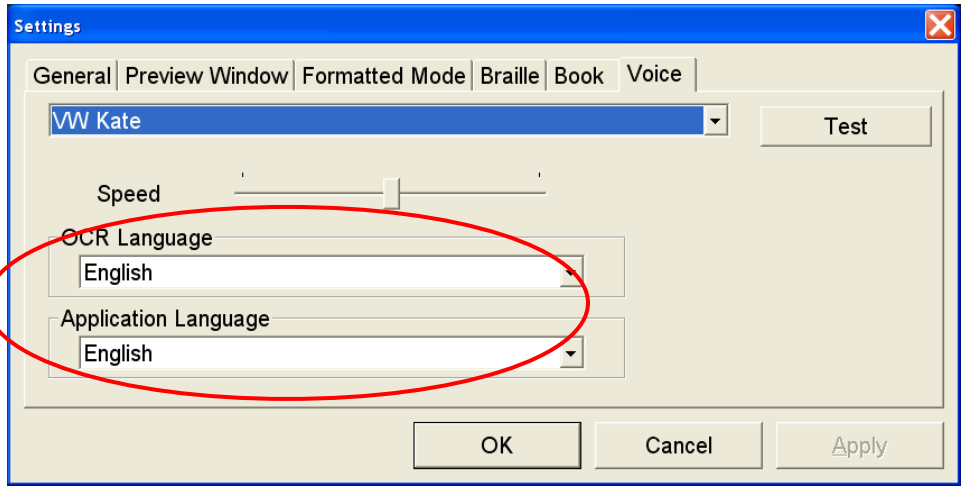



Test different voices, select the one that you like and click **Apply**.

You can change the speed by clicking the **Shift + Q** key to make it faster or the **Shift + Z** key, to make it slower. You can also change the speed by going to **Application,** down to **Settings,** over to the **Voice** tab and using the slide bar.

# Changing the Language

When you go to **Application,** down to **Settings,** and over to the **Voice** tab, there are two other options that you can modify. The first is **OCR Language**.



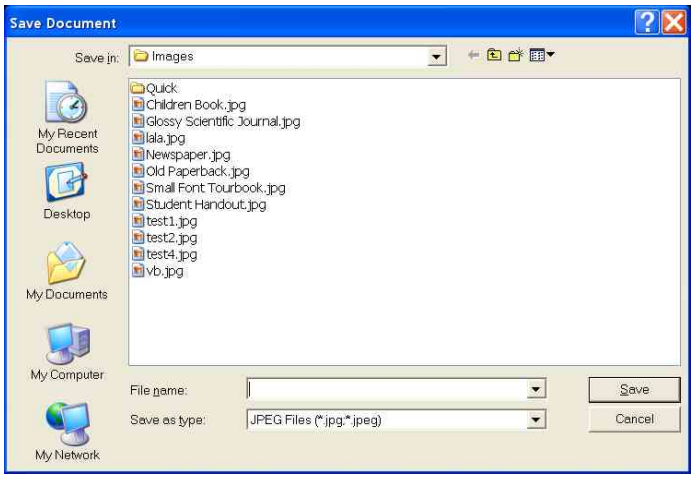

**OCR Language** is the language of the document that you are putting under the Eye-Pal camera. By default, the **OCR Language** is English.

The second is **Application Language,** which is the language of the application,

including text, menus, and dialog boxes. By default, the **Application Language** is English.

# Saving a Document and Opening a Previously Saved Document

Place a new page at the Eye-Pal base. Go to **Application** and down to **Save Image**. A **Save Image dialog** box will appear.




Type in the name for your document, and click the **Save** button. The image will be saved in the default directory My Documents\Eye-Pal\Images. You can also select another directory in which to save the document.

**To view a previously saved image:** Go to **Application** and down to **Load Image**. A **Load Image dialog** box will appear. Select the image and right click **Open**. Press the **E** button to read it.

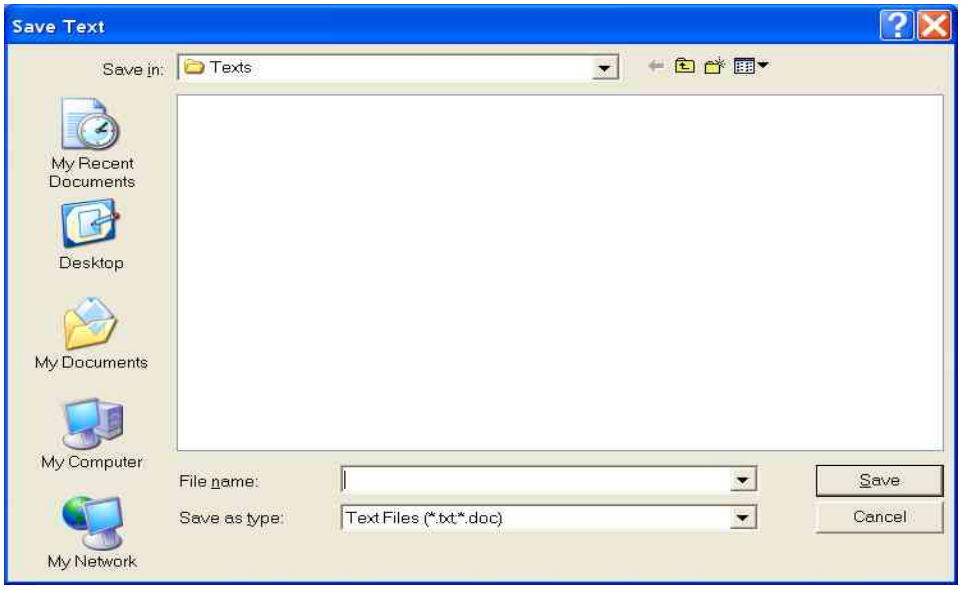
**Note:** Eye-Pal does not have to be plugged in to read previously saved images.

## To save a document as a text file

To save a document as text that is currently under the Eye-Pal camera, press **E** to stop the camera. Once the camera is stopped you can save the document as text.

To quickly save text with default name as date/time stamp in the default folder My Documents\Eye-Pal\Temp, and immediately display the text file on the screen, press **Control + Shift + W**.

You can also save text in any directory and give it any name by going to the **Application** menu, down to **Save text,** and then press **Enter.**




A **Save text dialog** box will appear. Type in the name for your document and click the **Save** button. Documents will be saved in the default directory My Documents\Eye-Pal\Texts. Again, you can select another directory in which to save the document.

When saving a previously saved image as text, there is no need to stop the camera because it is already stopped. Follow the same steps listed above.

## To save a document as an audio file

To save a document that is currently under the Eye-Pal camera as a WAV file, press **E** to stop the camera. Once the camera is stopped, you can save the document as text.

Once the page has finished being read, or you have stopped the reading, go to **Application** menu, select **Save WAVE,** then press **Enter.** A **Save WAVE dialog** box will appear. Type in the name for your file, and click the **Save** button. The document will be saved in the default directory MyDocuments\Eye-Pal\WAVE .You can also select another directory in which to save the audio WAV file.

# Opening a WAV File

A WAV or sound file **CANNOT BE OPENED** in Eye-Pal. Go to the directory where the file was saved and open it from there. The default directory that the WAV files are saved in is My Documents\Eye-Pal\WAVE. Double click on the saved file and it will open in a program such as Windows Media Player.

The saved WAV file allows you to hear the full text without having to first change it to a text format to be read. Use the WAV file, burn it onto a CD and upload it to an MP3 player so you can listen to your own audio book.

# Creating and Managing Books

A Book is an electronic copy of a book that you can create using the Eye-Pal camera.

Eye-Pal allows you to scan and save multi-page documents to a computer. While reading a Book you can use all the same document capabilities that are available for documents with Eye-Pal.

You can listen while the book is read to you page by page. The whole book can be saved as text, using any third party software to read the file.

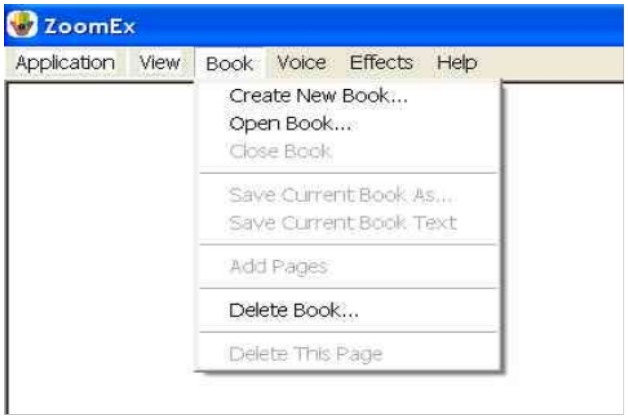
A Book allows you to bring your book anywhere with you. Just save it to a CD or upload it to your MP3 player.

Eye-Pal can be used separately from the Eye-Pal device to read saved documents.

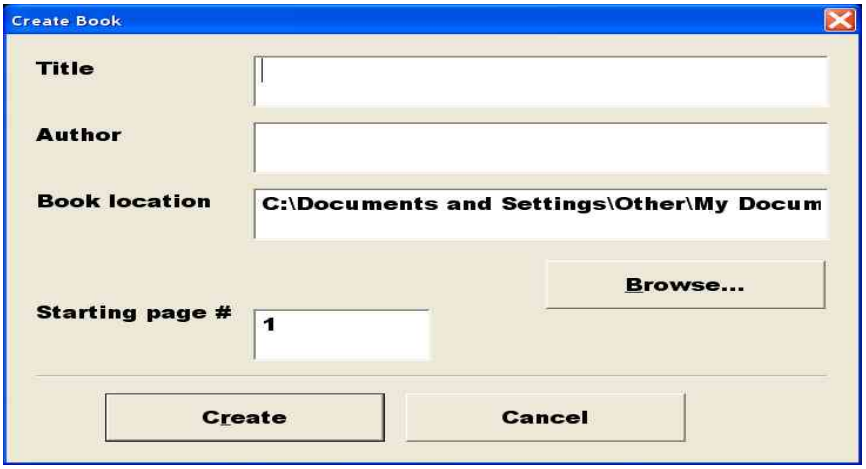
## Creating a Book

Have a book or a multi-page document handy for scanning and reading with Eye-Pal. Place your document under the Eye-Pal camera.

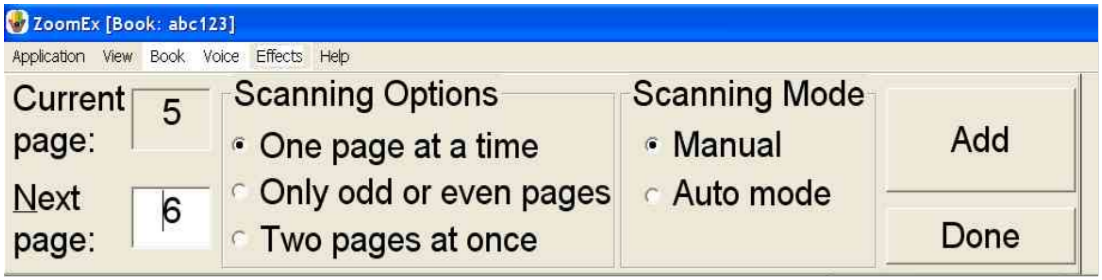
Find the Book menu and click on it or click **Alt + B** and then the **Enter** key.




The **Create Book** dialog will appear. Put in the book title and the author's name, and click **Create**.




The dialog will go away and the **Add Pages bar** will appear instead.




You can save any kind of book using Eye-Pal; small paperback books, large books with page sizes up to 8.5'x11', and magazines.

## Choose how to scan a Book

**Start by selecting one of the three scanning options:**

1. **Scan one page at a time.** Use this option to scan a small amount of large pages.
2. **Scan only odd or only even pages**. Use this option to scan pages in a large book. Open the book and place the left or right page under the camera. If a portion of the second page also appears under the camera, Eye-Pal will ignore it. Do not move the book until you have scanned all odd pages you want.

   Once you have finished scanning odd pages, do the same for the even pages. Start by turning the book 180 degrees. Be sure that the even pages are now under the camera. The fact that the pages appear upside-down does not matter. Eye-Pal rotates the pages for you automatically when you want to read the book.

   Change the **Next page number** to the first even page number and start scanning the even pages. When you have finished, click the **Done** button. A Book will sort and keep all the pages in the right order automatically.
3. **Scan two pages at once.** Use this option to scan small sized books. If you place the open book under the camera and can see both pages in the preview window **(F5)**, you

can save both pages at once. While using this option, the book orientation is important. Always put the book in landscape format and align the edges of the book with the Eye-Pal base.

When you scan two pages at once, both pages will be saved with their respective numbers. You will be able to view each page separately. If the Book failed to separate two pages, this will be indicated by an error sound and will be saved as one page. In this case, you can delete that page. See **Deleting a Page in a Book** section to adjust the book and save the same pages again.

**Note**: The default selection is to scan one page at a time.

# Scanning modes

**There are 2 types of scanning modes:**

1. **Manual Mode:** Press the **A** key or click the **Add** button to scan and save the page. You will hear a shutter sound indicating that the page has been scanned and saved.

2. **Auto Mode:** Click the **Start Auto Mode** button to start scanning and saving pages. Then simply turn the pages. The Eye-Pal camera has motion detectors so it will scan each page as soon as the page image is still for a few seconds. It waits while you turn the pages. **Auto Mode** allows you to use both hands to hold the pages in place, since you don't have to operate the mouse or keyboard to push the **Add** button.

   **Note:** The default selection is **Manual** mode.

# Adding pages to a new Book

**Now that you've chosen how to scan and save a book, let's start adding pages.**

**1. Manual Mode:**

a) Put the first page of your document under the Eye-Pal camera and it will appear on the screen.

b) Click the **Add (A)** button. Use your hands to keep the book flat and in a second, you will hear a shutter sound. The page is now saved, and the **Current page** field should display **1.** The **Next page number** should display **2** if you are saving one page at a time or **3** if you are saving two pages at a time, (or odd or even) pages.

c) Put the next page of your document down, click the **Add** button or press **A** on the keyboard.

d) Save as many pages as you need by repeating the previous step.

e) If you are saving many pages, you can continue saving pages later.

2. **Auto Mode:**

a) Click the **Start Auto Mode Button**.

b) Place the open book under the camera and use both hands to flatten the page. In a few seconds you will hear the shutter sound, as the page has been scanned and saved.

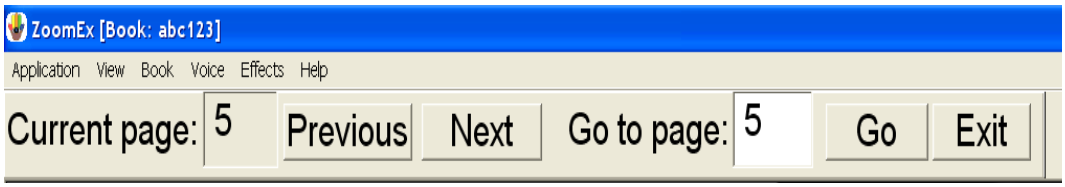
c) Turn the page, again keep the page flat and in a few seconds you will hear the same sound.

d) Continue turning pages until you have all the pages you want to be scanned and saved.

e) When you are done or need a break, click the **Stop Auto Mode** button and remove the book from under the camera.

f) When you are completely finished saving pages, click the **Done** button. The **Add Pages Book bar** will disappear, and the **Read Mode Book bar** will appear.

**Note:** You can add more pages to this book later. See **Adding Additional Pages to an Existing Book** section of the manual for more details.




The **Read Mode bar** allows you to easily read your saved book with navigation buttons. For more information on reading your book with the **Read Mode Book bar**, see **Reading a Saved Book** topic below.

If you are done with your book, click the **Exit** button to close the book.

# More tips on saving a Book

1. Place a piece of white paper under the camera and place a book on the paper. Then Eye-Pal will not scan the background as part of your document.
2. Make the book as flat as possible. If you are saving a thick book with many pages, choose the **Auto** mode and use both hands to flatten the book.
3. When you are saving a book in **Auto** mode, Eye-Pal will automatically adjust brightness to the light conditions at that time. If you are taking a lot of time saving all of the pages, take a break occasionally. Click **Stop Auto Mode** and then click **Start Auto Mode** to allow Eye-Pal to re-adjust the brightness according to the illumination of your room.

4. When you are saving a lot of pages in **Auto** mode, you may notice you have to wait longer to hear the shutter. It could be due to one of three reasons:

   a) The camera detects some motion such as wind, unstable hands, etc.;

   b) The camera missed a motion when you flipped the page; or

   c) Eye-Pal turned the camera off because the conditions have changed; for example, the lights in the room were turned on or off.

   You can always restart the camera and click the **Start Auto Mode** button again**.**

5. If you are using **Manual** mode, be sure that the page is stable on the screen before clicking **Add** (**A**).

## Reading a saved Book

**To browse through the saved pages of your document:**

1. Go to the **Book** menu and select **Open Book.**

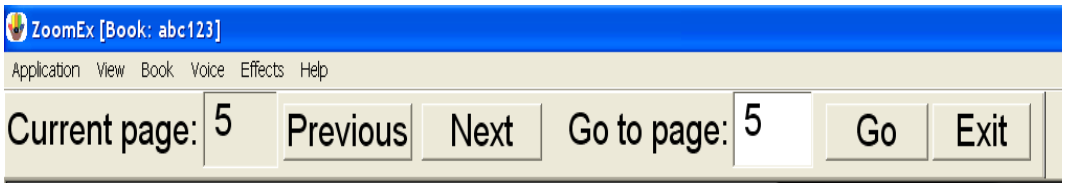
2. The **Open Book** dialog will show the books in the default folder My Documents\Eye-Pal\Books. If you want to open the book that was saved in another folder, use the **Browse** button to select the desired folder. The location of the selected folder will be displayed in the **Book location** field. The list of books in this folder will be displayed on the screen.

   **Note:** Select the folder that contains all of your books, and **not** the folder that bears the name of a specific book. You might *see* the folder which bears the name of the specific book – do **not** select it.

3. Select the book you would like to view, and click the **Open** button.

   **Note:** The **Open** button is disabled if no book is selected; as soon as you click any book in the list, the **Open** button will become enabled and clickable.

   The **Open Book dialog** box disappears. The **Read Mode bar** appears at the top of the screen; the first page of the chosen document is displayed on screen as well.




   The **Read Mode bar** has the **Previous** and **Next** buttons, the **Go to page** field and **Go** button to jump to a page out of order. The **Read Mode bar** also has the **Current Page** field, which displays the number of the page currently being

viewed.

If the **Status Parameter** box is checked under **General Settings**, Eye-Pal will tell you the current page number.

Eye-Pal will remember all of your selections when you move from page to page or from book to book. If you use the **Save only odd or only even pages** option while saving the book, you will have to rotate only the first even (odd) page. Eye-Pal will rotate the rest of the pages automatically.

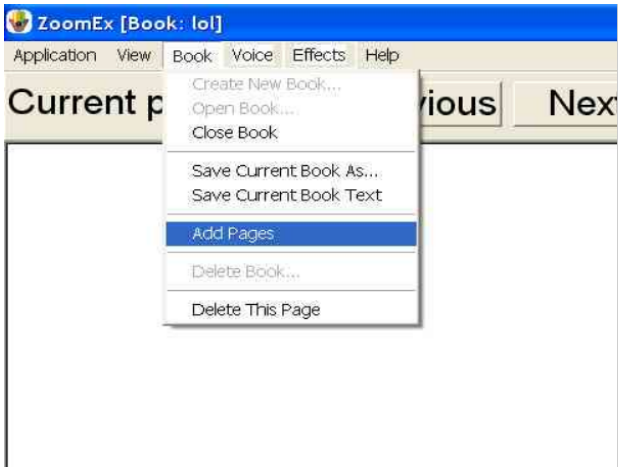
4. Click the **Next** button or **N** on the keyboard to go to the next page of your document. Click the **Previous** button or **P** on the keyboard to go to the previous page. You can also put in a page number out of sequence, and click the **Go** button to jump to that page.
5. When you are done browsing the book, click the **Exit** button.
6. **Note:** When the cursor is on the **Current Page** or **Go to Page** field and you are moving from page to page using **Previous (P)** or **Next (N)** buttons, you will hear **N or P** instead of the "Next" or "Previous". To avoid this, use TAB to move the cursor.

# Managing Books

## Adding pages to an existing Book

**To add additional pages to an existing book:**

1. Open the book by going to the **Book** menu and go down to **Open Book.**
2. Once the **Read Mode bar** appears, go to the **Book** menu and select **Add Pages**
3. The **Add Pages Book bar** will appear.




4. Place the page you want to scan under the camera, set its page number, and press the **Add** button or the letter **A**. You can also use the **Auto Save** mode and/or save two pages at a time. See "Creating and Saving a Book" section for details.

5. Repeat step 4 as needed.

6. When you finish adding new pages, click the **Done** button. If you are saving pages in **Auto Mode**, click the **Stop Auto Mode** button first and then click the **Done** button. The **Add Pages book bar** will disappear, and the **Read Mode Book bar** will appear again.

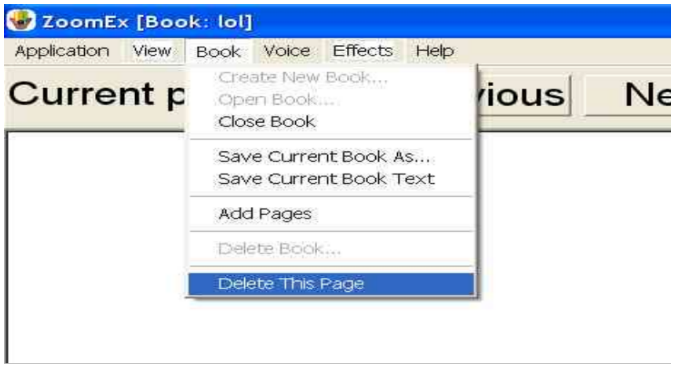
## Deleting pages in an existing Book

**In order to delete a page in a book:**

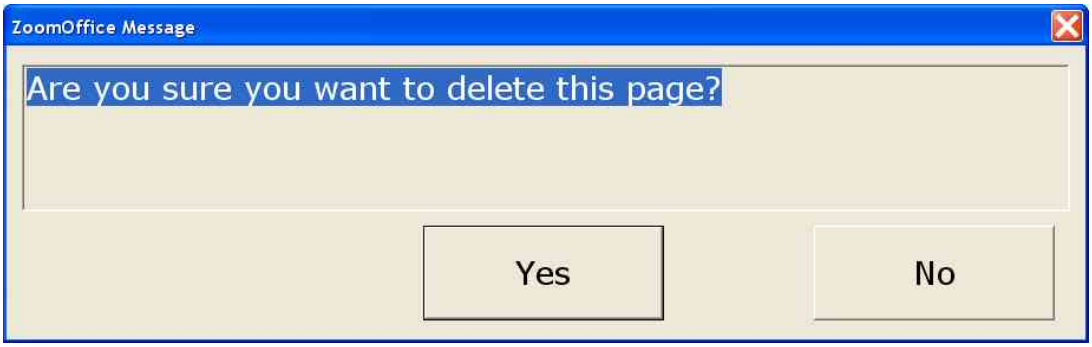
1. Open the book by going to the **Book** menu, and click on **Open Book.** The **Read Mode** Book bar will appear.

2. Navigate to the page that you want to delete by putting the page number into the **Go to page** field and pressing **Go**.

3. Go to the **Book** menu, and click on **Delete This Page**.



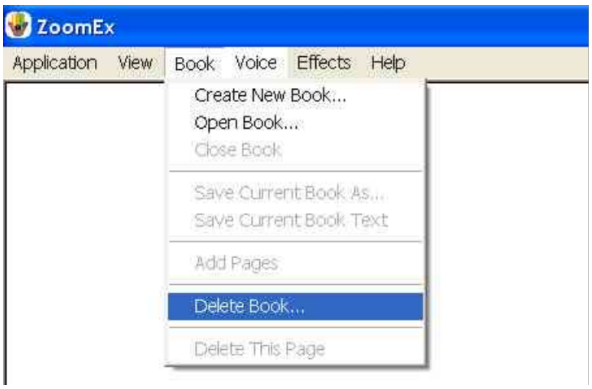

4. You will be asked to confirm your instruction. Click yes.




5. The page will be deleted. The display will automatically move to the next page or to the previous page if the deleted page was the last page of the document.

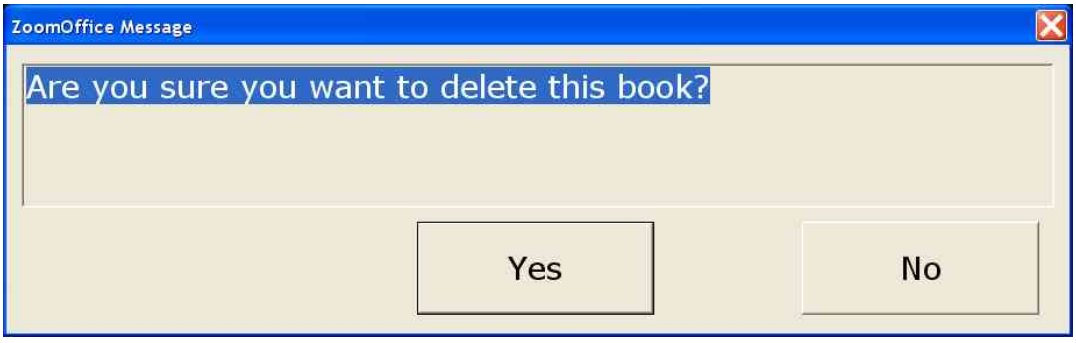
## Deleting a Book

1. Go to the **Book** menu, and click on **Delete Book**.



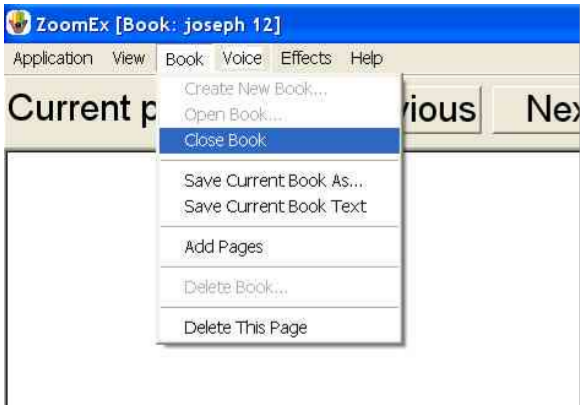

2. The **Delete Book dialog** box will appear. Select the book that you wish to delete and click the **Delete** button. You cannot delete an open book.

3. You will be asked to confirm your instruction. Click yes.




## Closing a Book

To close a book you can click the **Exit** button or go to the **Book** menu, and click **Close Book.**




## Saving a Book as text

After you have scanned the book, you can convert the whole book to one text file. Under the **Book Menu,** click on **Save Current Book as Text.** The file is saved in the folder My Documents\Eye-Pal\Texts. Depending on the power of your computer, it will take approximately 3 to 6 seconds to save each page. For 200 pages the process may take 10 to 20 minutes.

If the **Status** box is checked under **General Settings**, Eye-Pal will tell you the current page number.

## Copying a saved Book

The fastest way to initially save a book is to save it on the hard drive. After you have scanned your book, you can use the **Save Current Book As** menu item to copy the book onto a CD or a flash drive.

1. Go to the **Book** menu, and click on **Save Current Book As**.
2. Use the **Browse** button to select the drive and/or folder where you want to copy the book.
3. Enter the **New Name** for the book.
4. Click the **Save** button.

It may take a few seconds to save the book. You may view and read the copy you made using Eye-Pal software on any IBM compatible computer.

# Useful Tips for the Eye-Pal Camera

If you are working with more than one windows application at a time, the Eye-Pal window may lose focus. If you have tried to turn the camera on or off by pressing the **Space bar** and nothing happens, cClick the mouse anywhere on the screen to bring focus to the Eye-Pal application.

There is a check box under the **General tab** of the **Settings** window: **"Use arrow keys to simulate X-Y table".** The default is unchecked. The unchecked option allows you to use arrow keys while reading the text. For example: to move to the next word, sentence, etc. If you noticed that arrow keys do not behave properly for reading, check this setting.

# Eye-Pal Quick Reference Guide (4.1.2)

## Notebook (Laptop) Keystrokes for Reading Functions

**To Scan and Start reading**: E or (Caps Lock +Down)

**Stop Eye-Pal Camera:** Space or (Caps Lock + Dot)

**Pause/Resume reading**: X or (Caps Lock +End)

**Reading by word:**
Next: (Control + Right) or (Caps Lock + Right)
Current: (Control + I)
Previous: (Control + Left) or (Caps Lock + Left)

**Reading by character:**
Next: Right
Current: I
Previous: Left

**Reading by sentence:**
Next: Down
Current: (Control + Caps Lock + I)
Previous: Up

**Reading by section:**
Next: (Control + Down)
Current: (Caps Lock + Shift + I)
Previous: (Control+Up)

## Keypad Keystrokes for Reading Functions

**Start/Stop Eye-Pal Camera:** (Insert + Delete)

**Start reading:** (Insert + 2) (It will read to the end of page.)

**Stop/Pause/Resume reading:** (Insert + 1)

**Reading by word:**
Next: (Insert + 6)
Current: (Insert + 5)
Previous: (Insert + 4)

**Reading by character:**
Next: 6
Current: 5
Previous: 4

**Reading by sentence:**
Next: 2
Current: (Control + Insert + 5)
Previous: 8

**Reading by section:**
Next: (Control + 2)
Current: (Shift + Insert + 5)
Previous: Control

## Speech Output Control Keystrokes

**Increase voice speed:** (Shift + Q) or (F9)

**Decrease voice speed:** (Shift + Z) or (F8)

**Hear page description:** (Shift + E)

**Hear current control:** Shift

**Stop speaking current control:** Control

## Zoom-Book Keyboard Command Keys

**Add page:** A (While creating a new book).

**Next page:** N
**Previous page:** P

### Zoom-Book Menu Accelerator Keys

**(Alt + B)** is an accelerator for Book Sub-Menu.

| Key | Function |
|---|---|
| **B** | Book Menu, Create new book |
| **O** | Open Book |
| **D** | Delete Book |
| **L** | Close book |
| **V** | Save current book as |
| **A** | Save current book as text |
| **G** | Add pages |
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# ABiSee Contact and Customer Service Information

Please feel free to contact us regarding any questions or concerns you may have.


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